DANIEL WARREN JOHNSON

MIKE SPICER

TRANSFORMERS

image

#06

ENERGON UNIVERSE

TRANSFORMERS

ISSUE SIX

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TRANSFORMERS #6. MARCH 2024. PUBLISHED BY IMAGE COMICS, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION:PO BOX 14457, PORTLAND, OR 97293.

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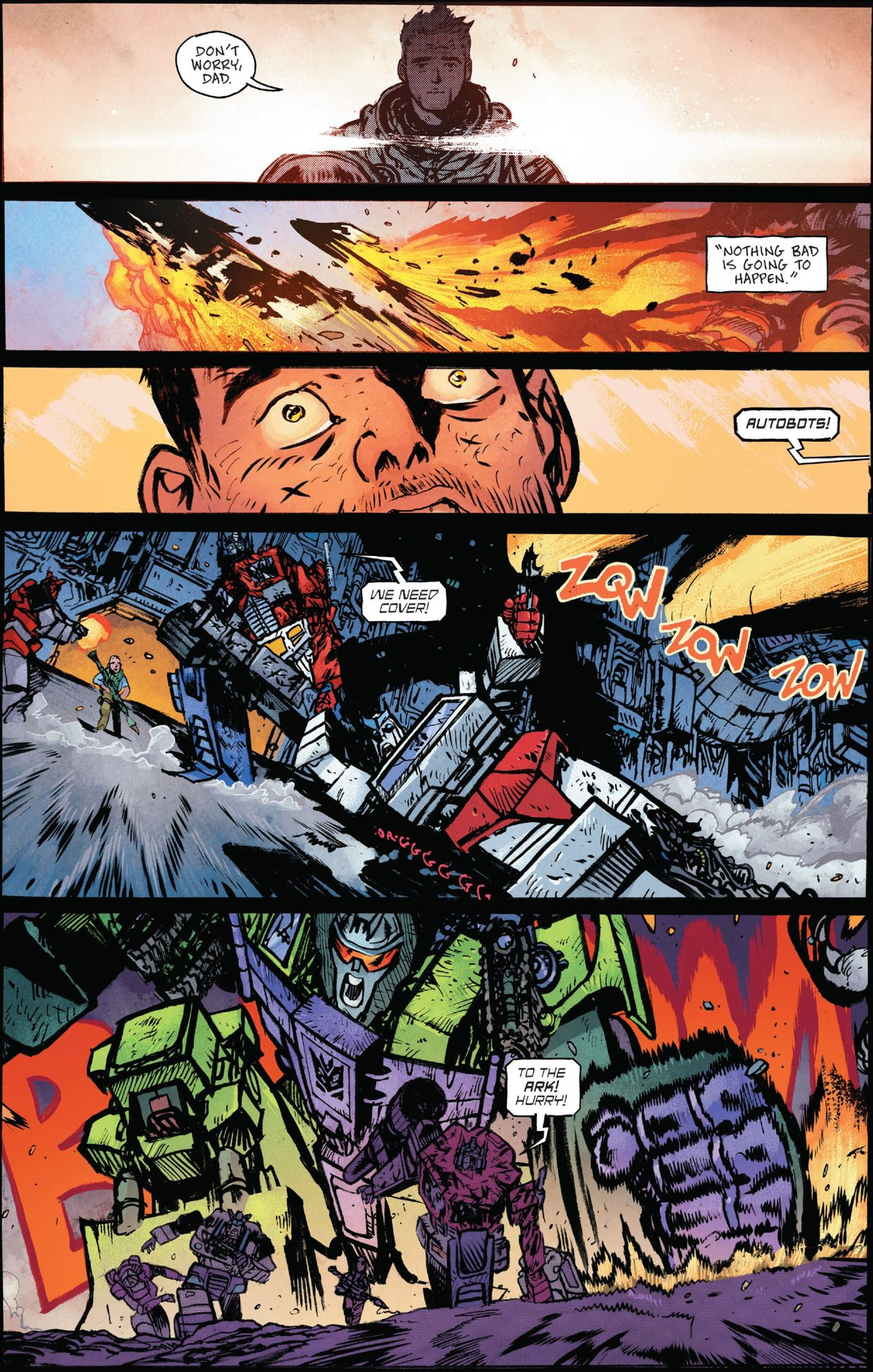
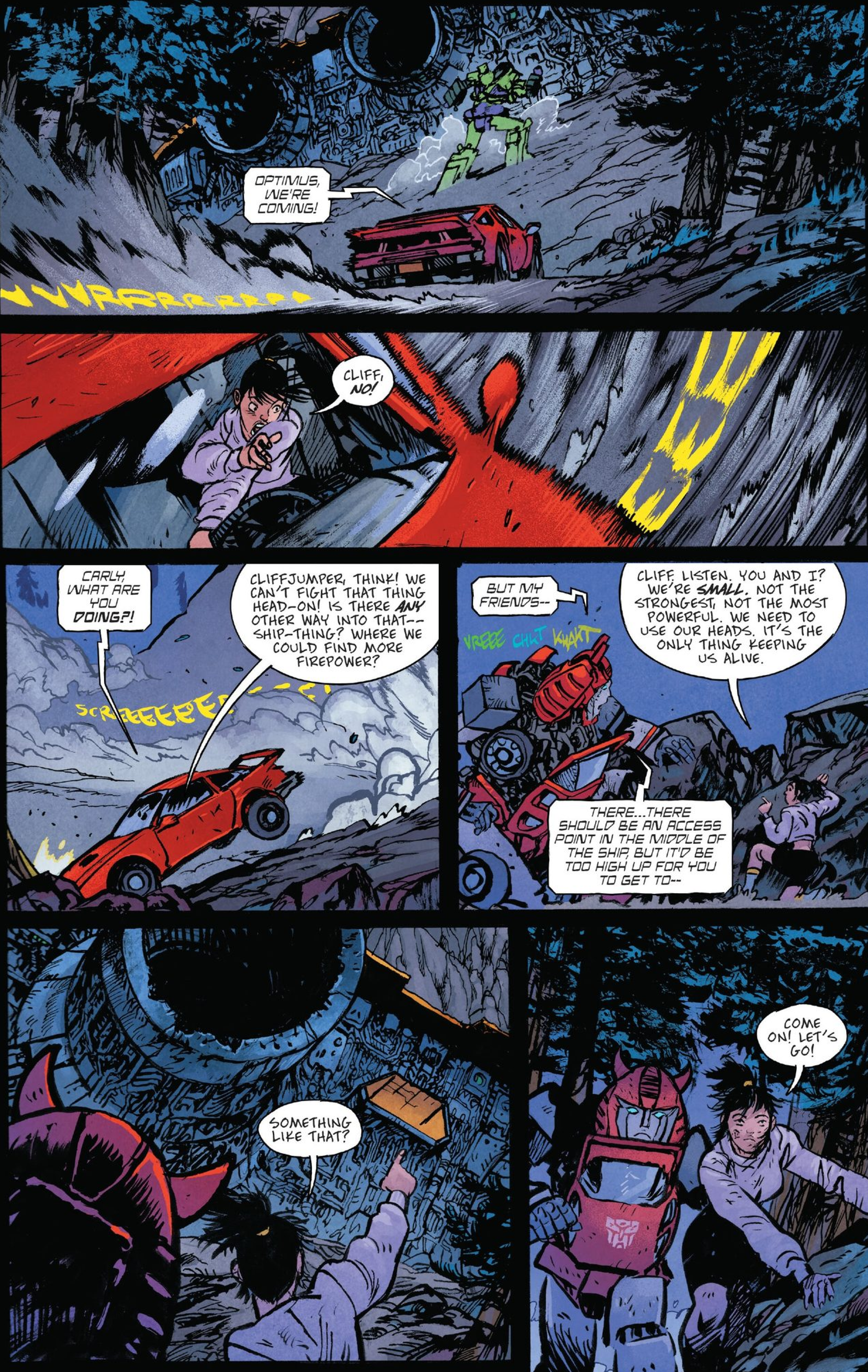
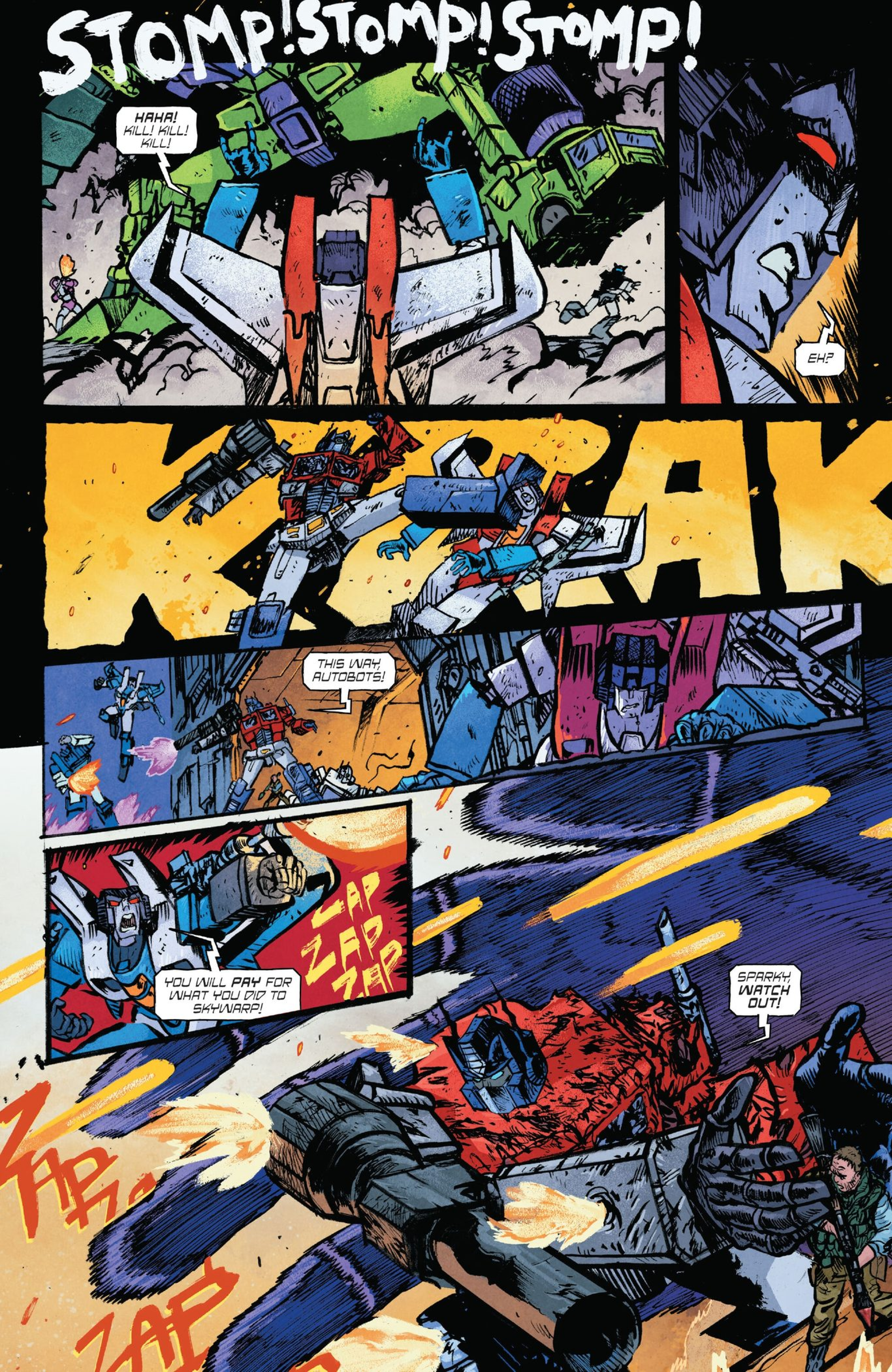
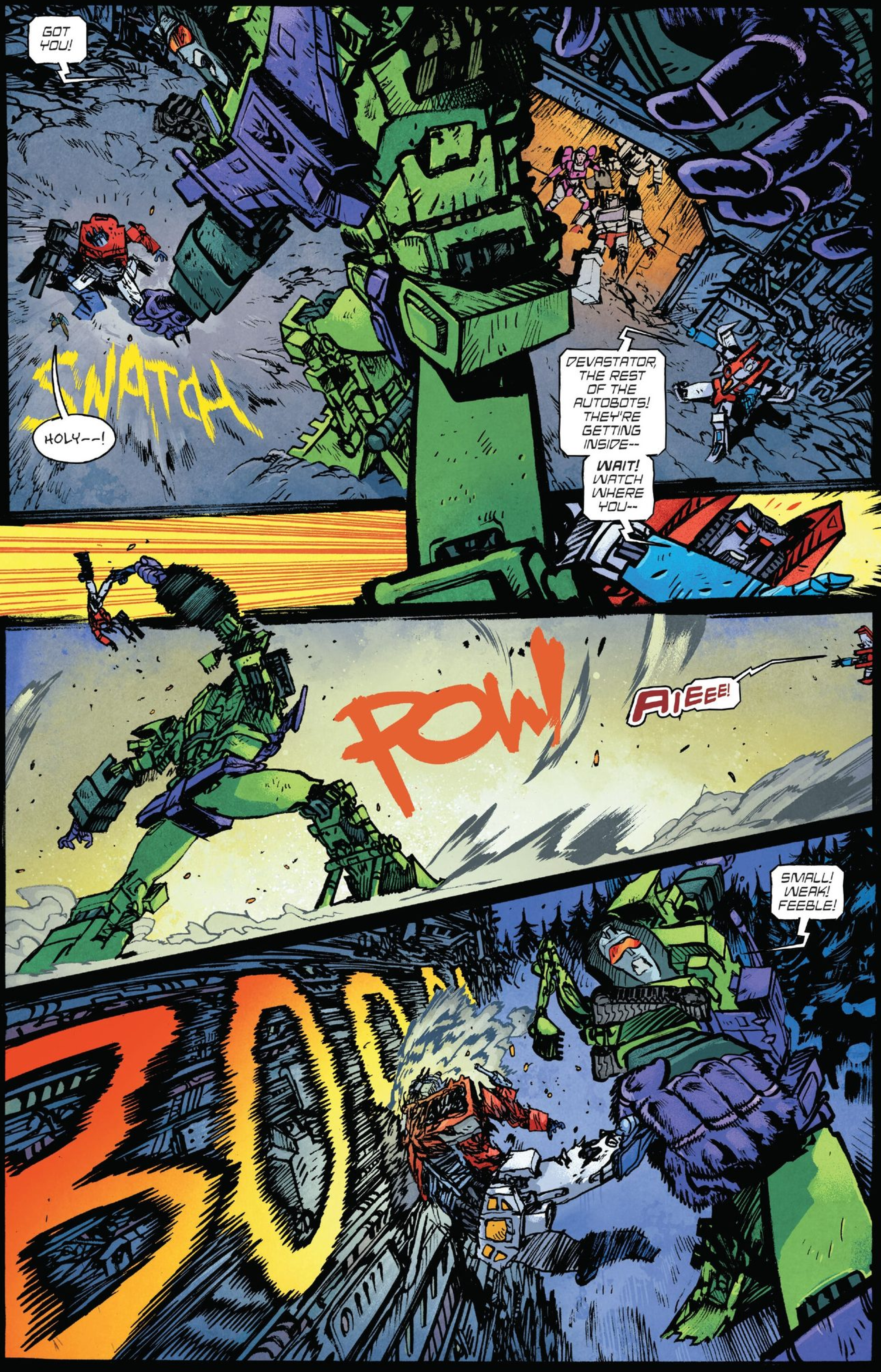
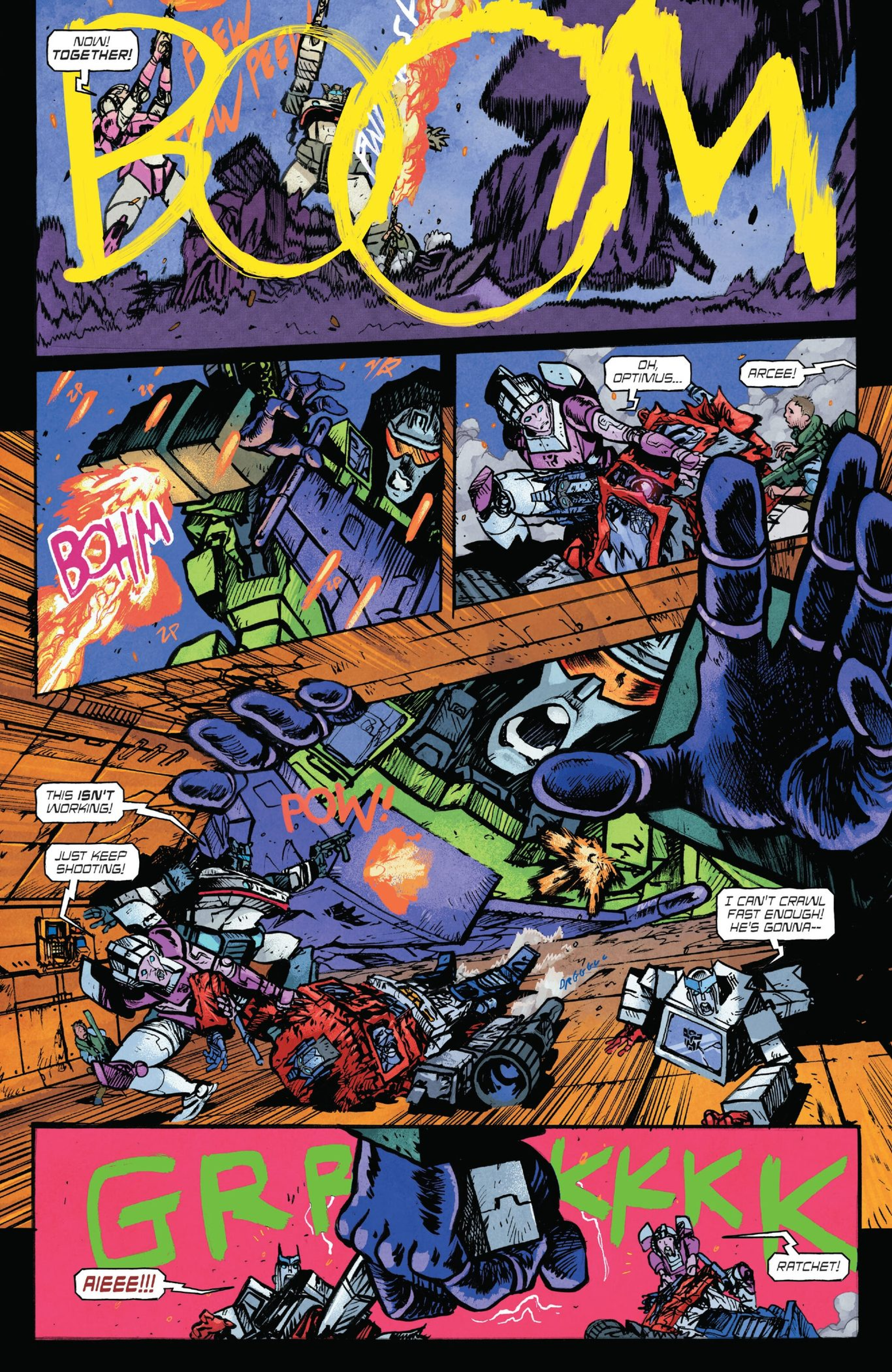
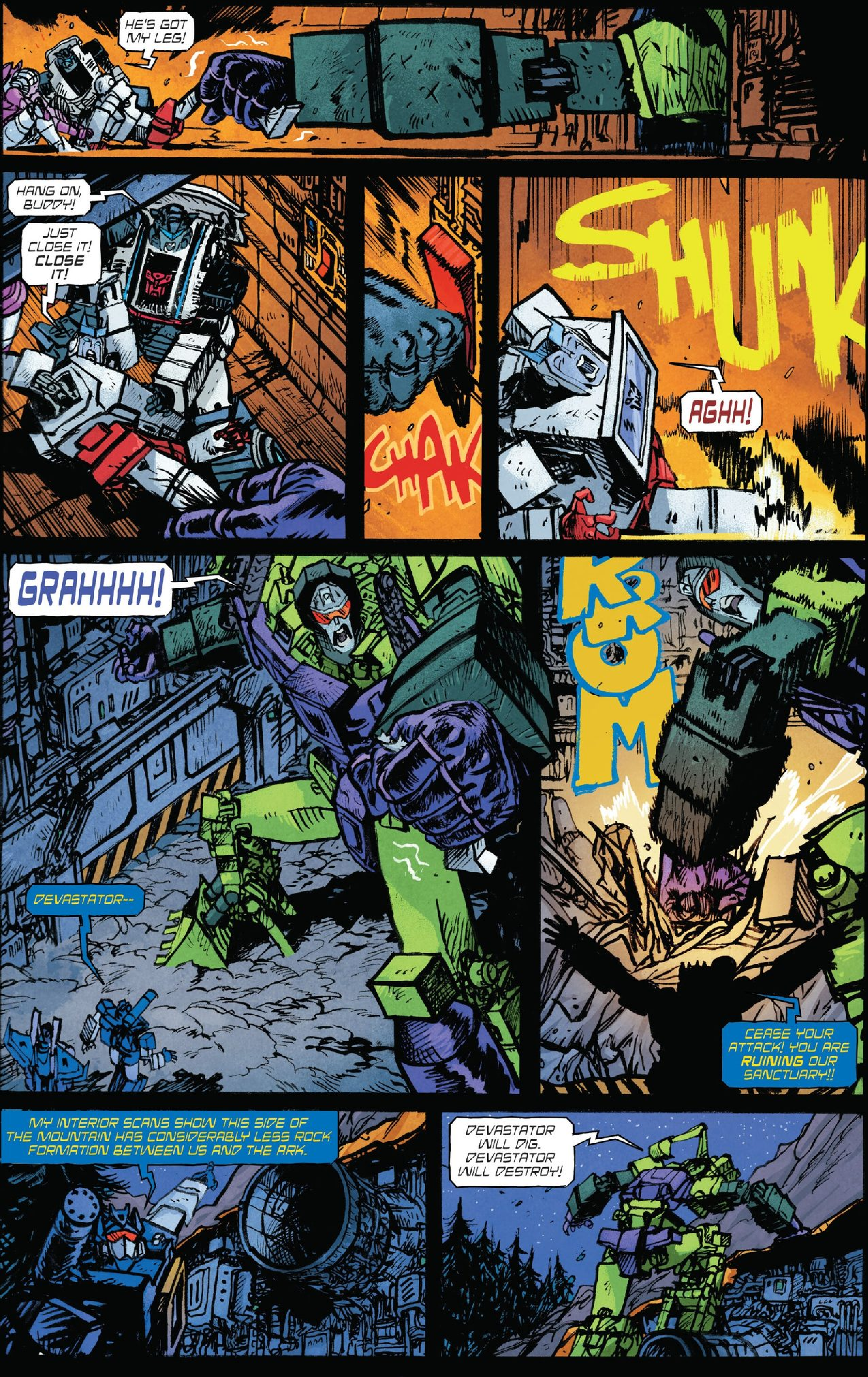

DON'T WORRY, DAD.
"NOTHING BAD IS GOING TO HAPPEN."
AUTOBOTS!
WE NEED COVER!
ZOW ZOW ZOW
TO THE **ARK!** HURRY!

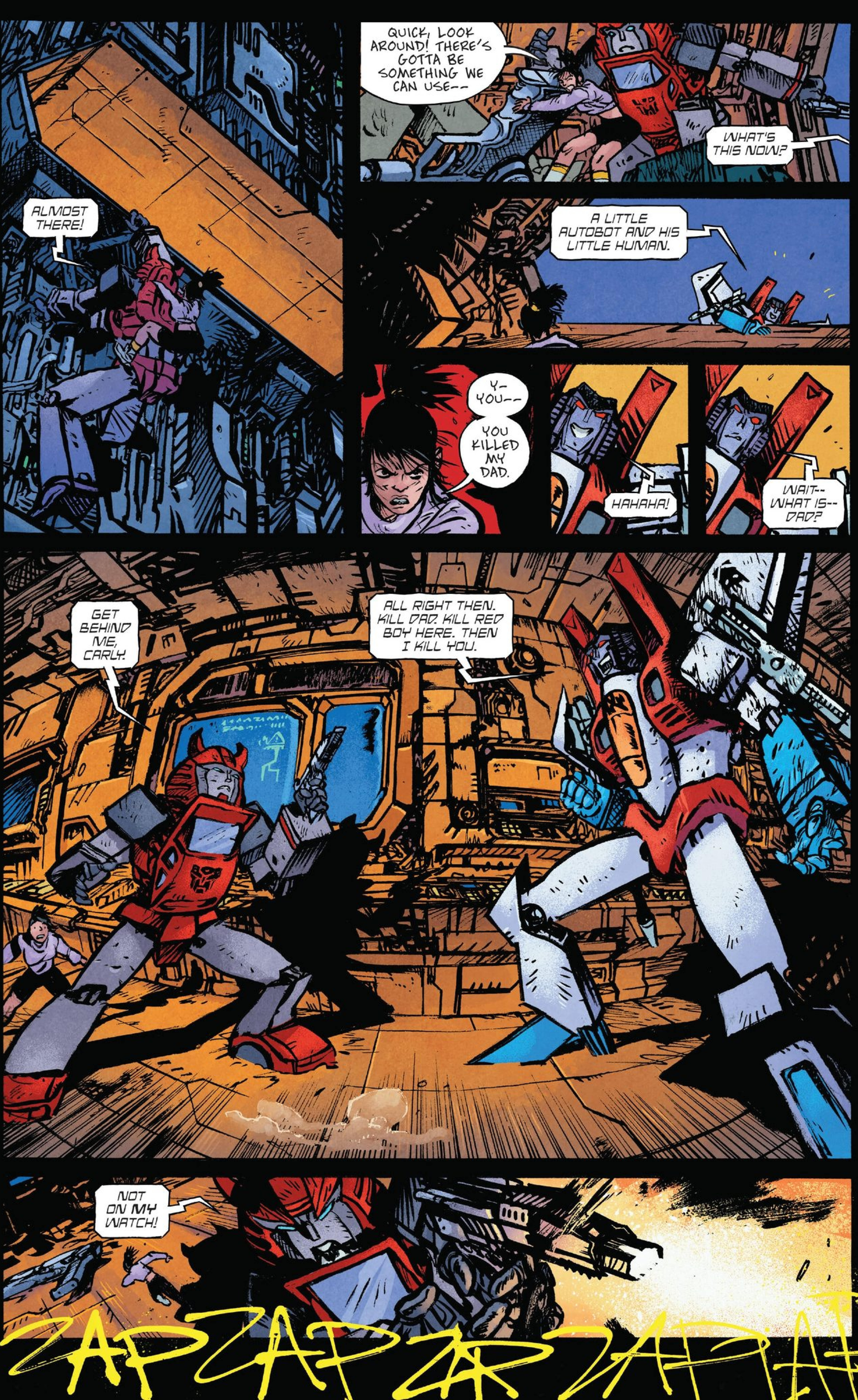

OPTIMUS, WE'RE COMING!
VVVRRRRRRRRR
CLIFF, NO!
CARLY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
CLIFFJUMPER, THINK! WE CAN'T FIGHT THAT THING HEAD-ON! IS THERE ANY OTHER WAY INTO THAT--SHIP-THING? WHERE WE COULD FIND MORE FIREPOWER?
SCREEEEEEEE---
BUT MY FRIENDS--
VREEE CHUT KWAKT
CLIFF. LISTEN. YOU AND I? WE'RE SMALL. NOT THE STRONGEST, NOT THE MOST POWERFUL. WE NEED TO USE OUR HEADS. IT'S THE ONLY THING KEEPING US ALIVE.
THERE...THERE SHOULD BE AN ACCESS POINT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SHIP, BUT IT'D BE TOO HIGH UP FOR YOU TO GET TO--
SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
COME ON! LET'S GO!

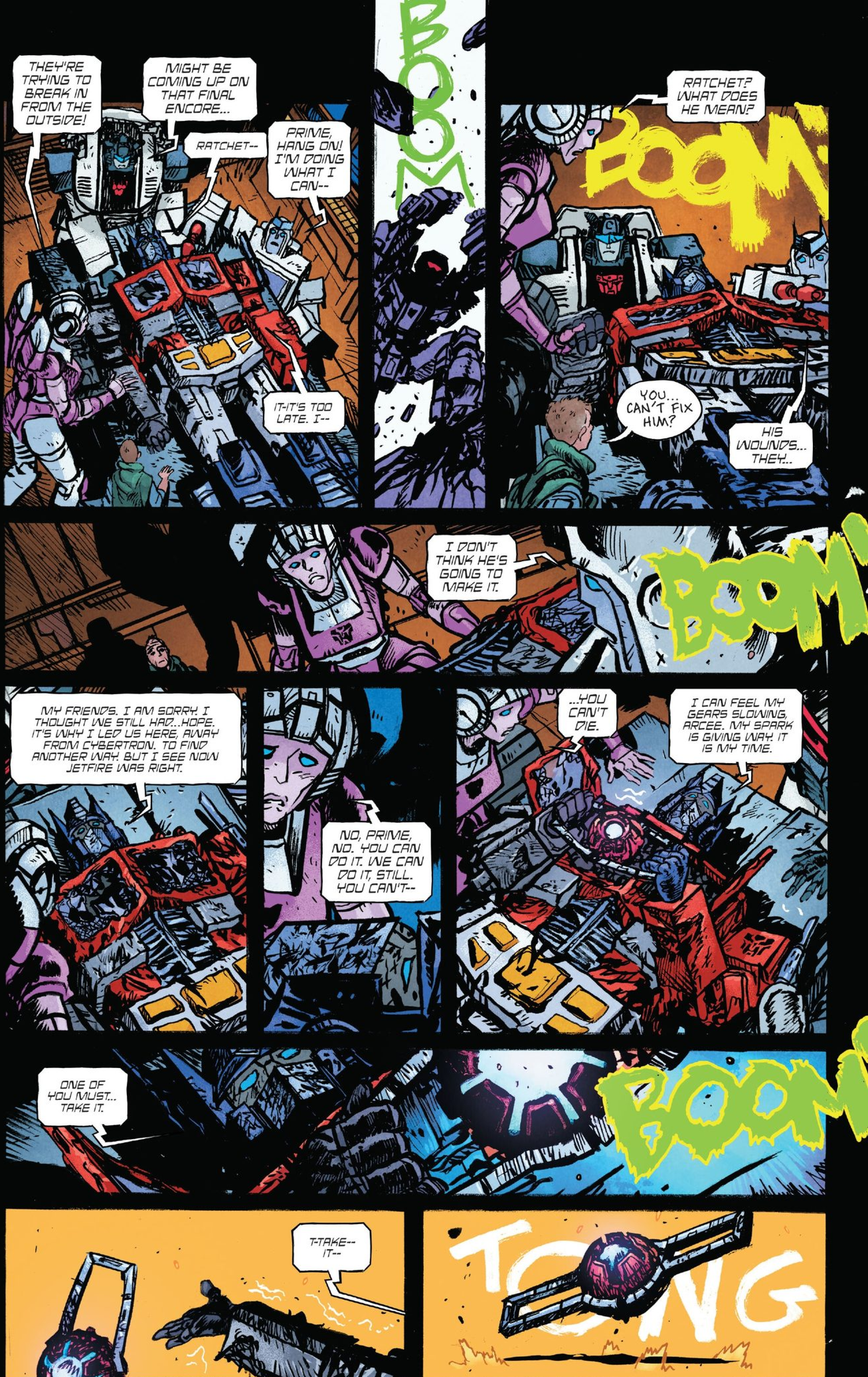

STOMP! STOMP! STOMP!
HAHA! KILL! KILL! KILL!
EH?
KRAK
THIS WAY, AUTOBOTS!
ZAP ZAP ZAP
YOU WILL **PAY** FOR WHAT YOU DID TO SKYWARP!
SPARKY, **WATCH OUT!**
ZAP...
ZAP

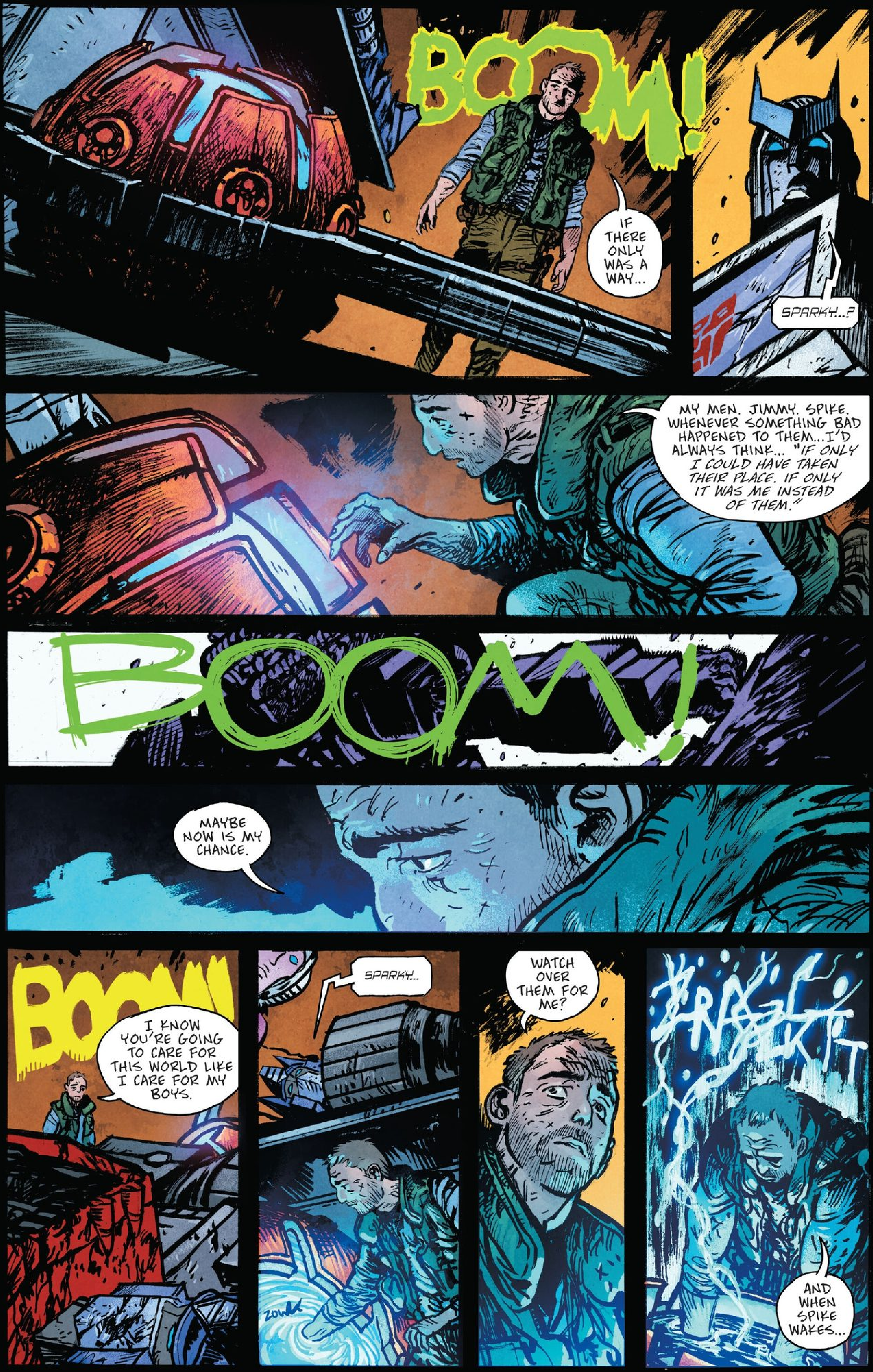

GOT YOU!
SWATCH
HOLY--!
DEVASTATOR, THE REST OF THE AUTOBOTS! THEY'RE GETTING INSIDE--
WAIT! WATCH WHERE YOU--
POW
AIEEE!
SMALL! WEAK! FEEBLE!
BOO

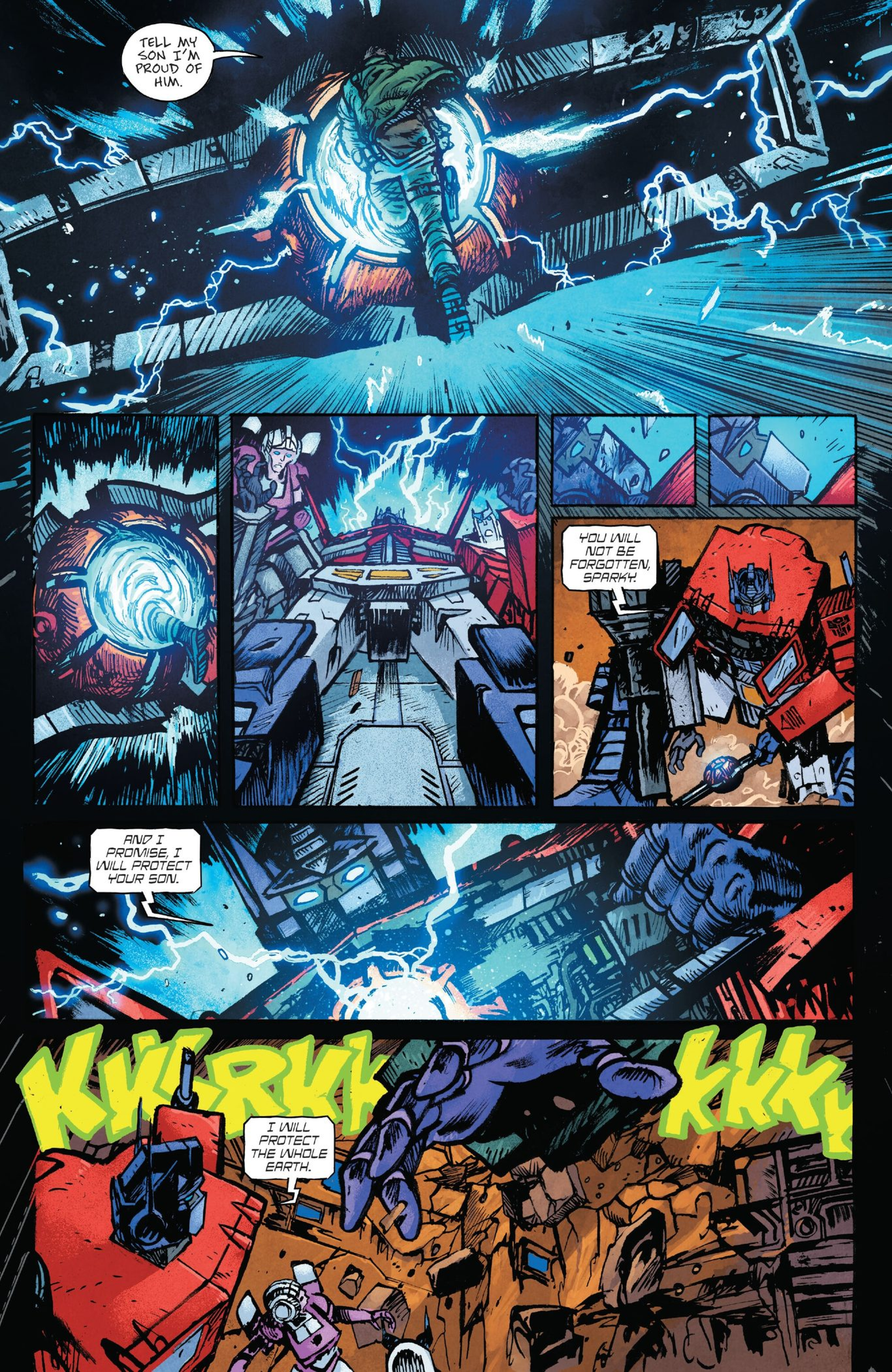

NOW! TOGETHER!
PEEW
PEEW
BOOM
BOHM
OH, OPTIMUS...
ARCEE!
THIS ISN'T WORKING!
JUST KEEP SHOOTING!
POW!
I CAN'T CRAWL FAST ENOUGH! HE'S GONNA--
GR KKKK
AIEEE!!!
RATCHET!

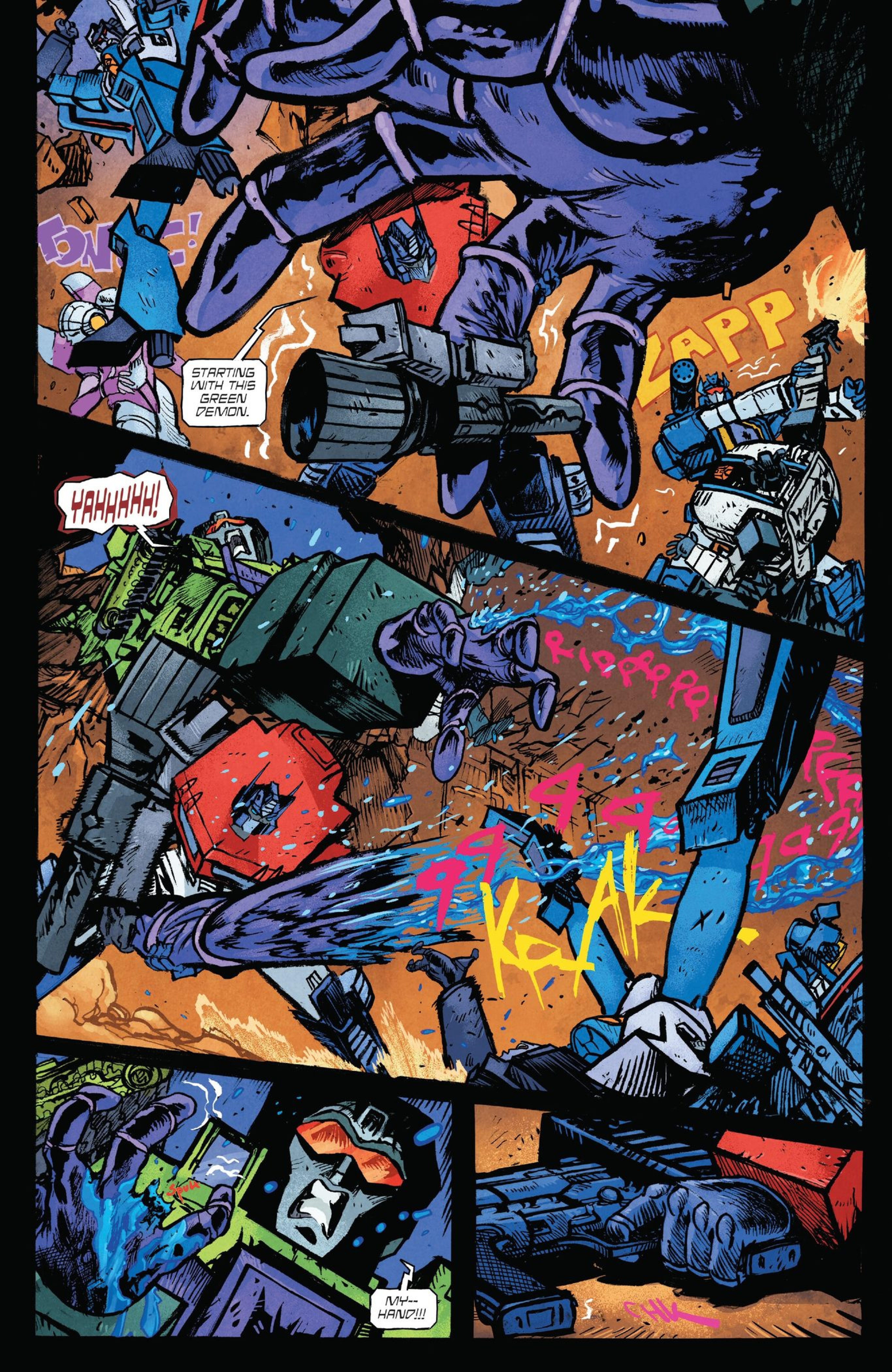

HE'S GOT MY LEG!
HANG ON, BUDDY!
JUST CLOSE IT! CLOSE IT!
CHAK
SHUNK
AGHH!
GRAHHHH!
DEVASTATOR--
KROOM
CEASE YOUR ATTACK! YOU ARE RUINING OUR SANCTUARY!!
MY INTERIOR SCANS SHOW THIS SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN HAS CONSIDERABLY LESS ROCK FORMATION BETWEEN US AND THE ARK.
DEVASTATOR WILL DIG. DEVASTATOR WILL DESTROY!

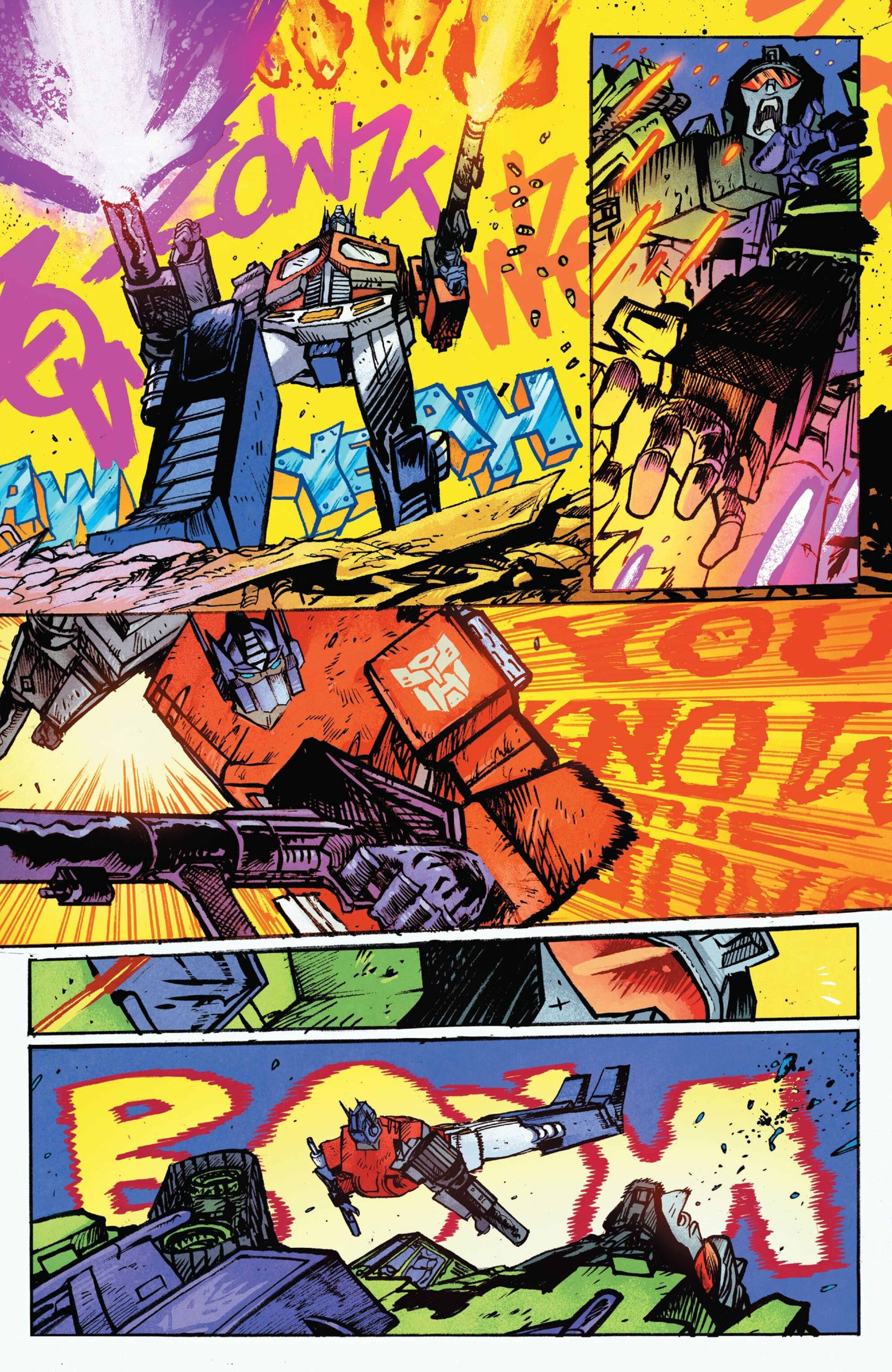

ALMOST THERE!
QUICK, LOOK AROUND! THERE'S GOTTA BE SOMETHING WE CAN USE--
WHAT'S THIS NOW?
A LITTLE AUTOBOT AND HIS LITTLE HUMAN.
Y-YOU--
YOU KILLED MY DAD.
HAHAHA!
WAIT--WHAT IS--DAD?
GET BEHIND ME, CARLY!
ALL RIGHT THEN. KILL DAD. KILL RED BOY HERE. THEN I KILL YOU.
NOT ON MY WATCH!
ZAP ZAP ZAP ZAP ZAP

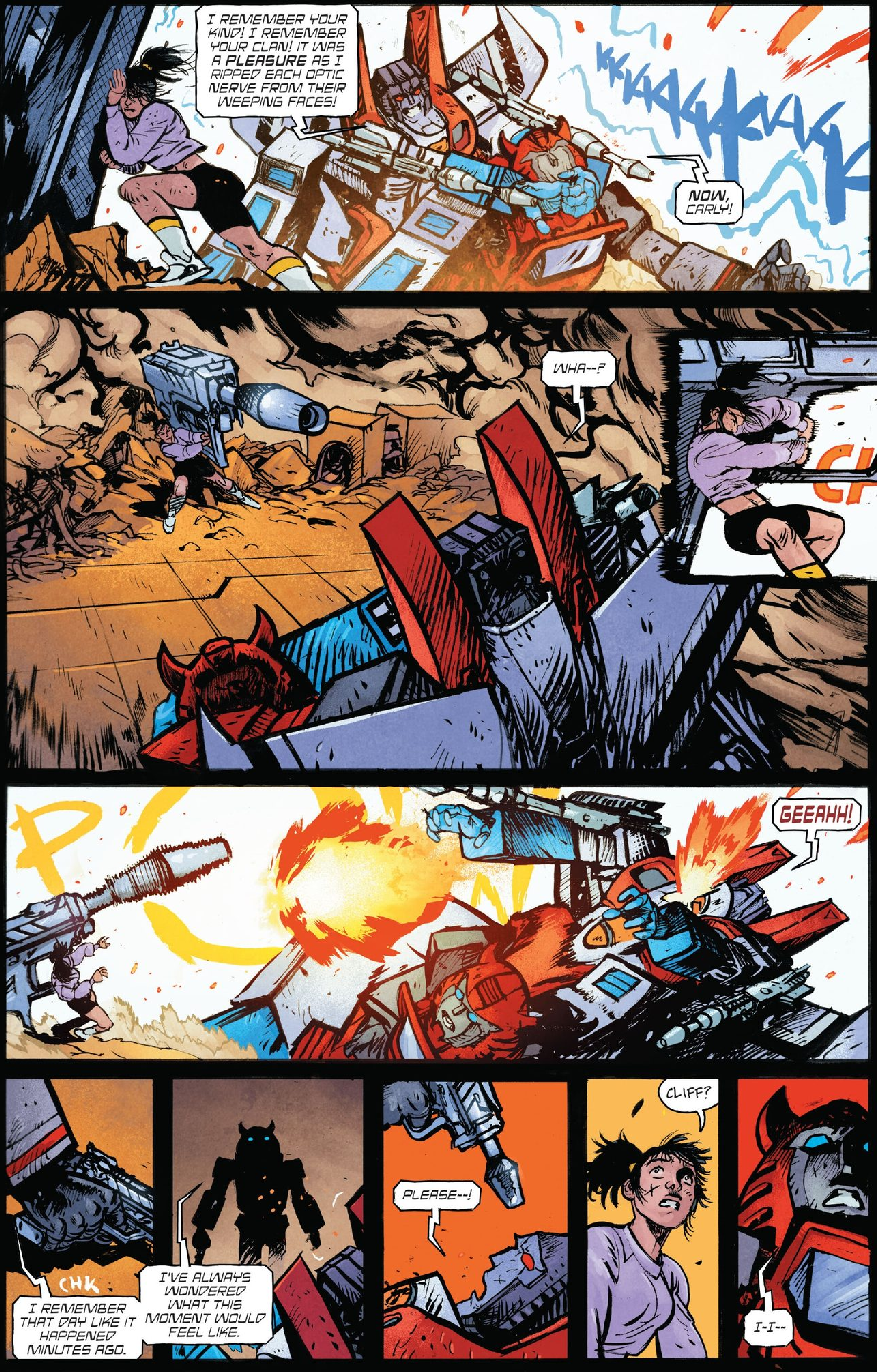

THEY'RE TRYING TO BREAK IN FROM THE OUTSIDE!
MIGHT BE COMING UP ON THAT FINAL ENCORE...
RATCHET--
PRIME, HANG ON! I'M DOING WHAT I CAN--
IT-IT'S TOO LATE. I--
BOOM
RATCHET? WHAT DOES HE MEAN?
BOOM!
YOU... CAN'T FIX HIM?
HIS WOUNDS... THEY...
I DON'T THINK HE'S GOING TO MAKE IT.
BOOM!
MY FRIENDS. I AM SORRY. I THOUGHT WE STILL HAD...HOPE. IT'S WHY I LED US HERE, AWAY FROM CYBERTRON. TO FIND ANOTHER WAY. BUT I SEE NOW JETFIRE WAS RIGHT.
NO, PRIME, NO. YOU CAN DO IT. WE CAN DO IT, STILL. YOU CAN'T--
...YOU CAN'T DIE.
I CAN FEEL MY GEARS SLOWING, ARCEE. MY SPARK IS GIVING WAY. IT IS MY TIME.
ONE OF YOU MUST... TAKE IT.
BOOM!
T-TAKE-- IT--
TONG

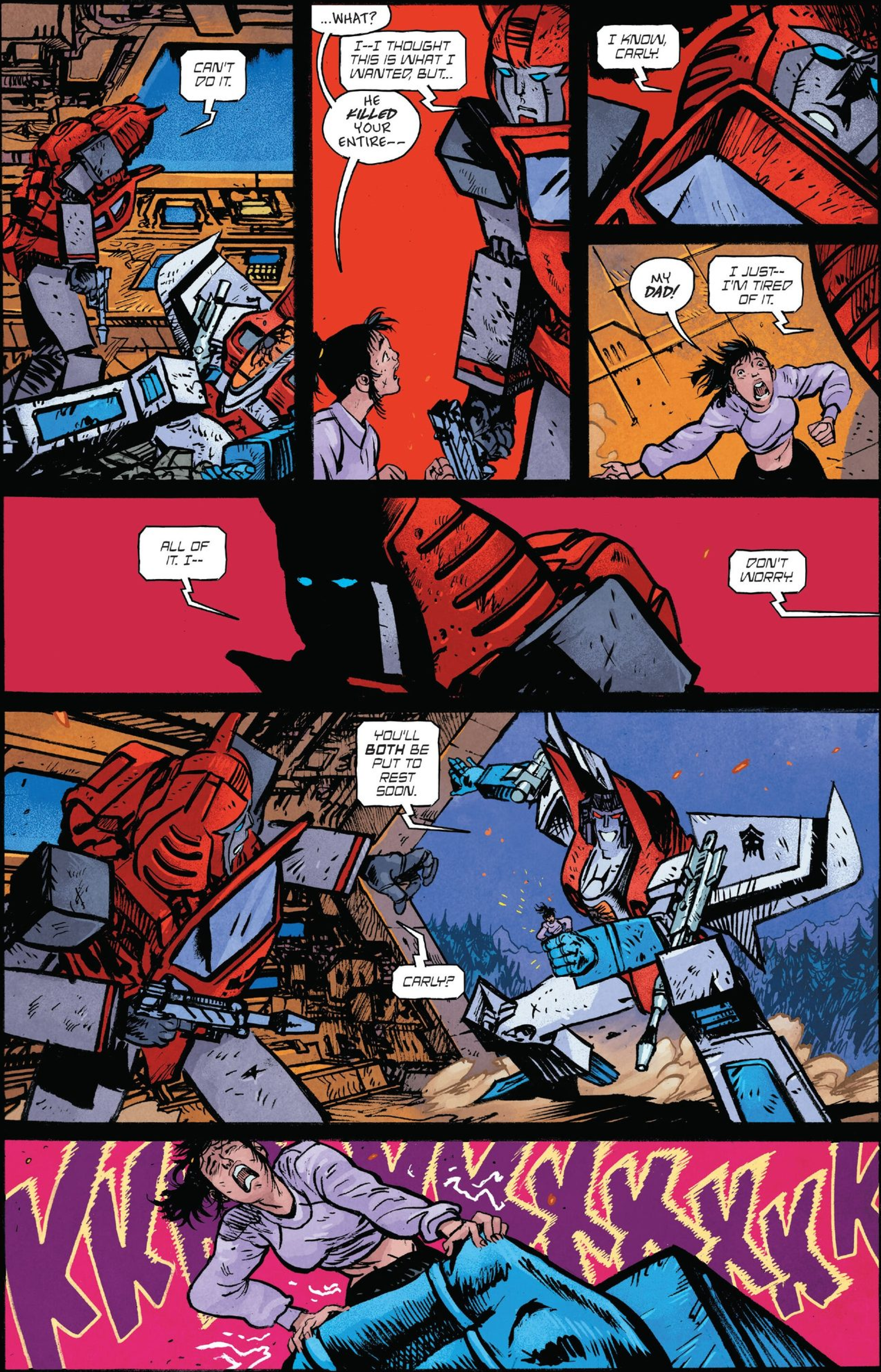

BOOM!
IF THERE ONLY WAS A WAY...
SPARKY...?
MY MEN. JIMMY. SPIKE. WHENEVER SOMETHING BAD HAPPENED TO THEM... I'D ALWAYS THINK... "IF ONLY I COULD HAVE TAKEN THEIR PLACE. IF ONLY IT WAS ME INSTEAD OF THEM."
BOOM!
MAYBE NOW IS MY CHANCE.
BOOM
I KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO CARE FOR THIS WORLD LIKE I CARE FOR MY BOYS.
SPARKY...
WATCH OVER THEM FOR ME?
AND WHEN SPIKE WAKES...

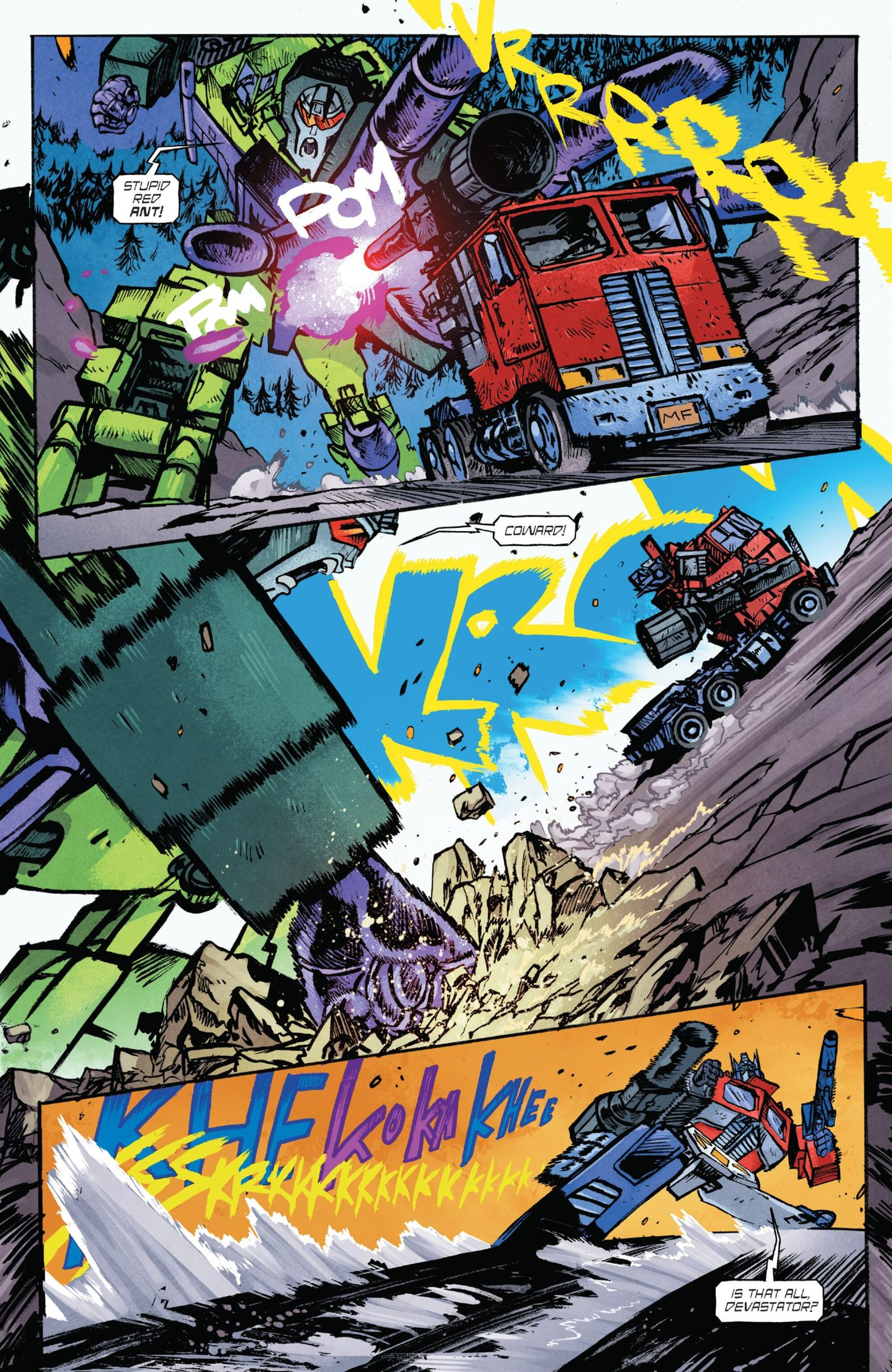

TELL MY SON I'M PROUD OF HIM.
YOU WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN, SPARKY.
AND I PROMISE, I WILL PROTECT YOUR SON.
KKRKK
KKK
I WILL PROTECT THE WHOLE EARTH.

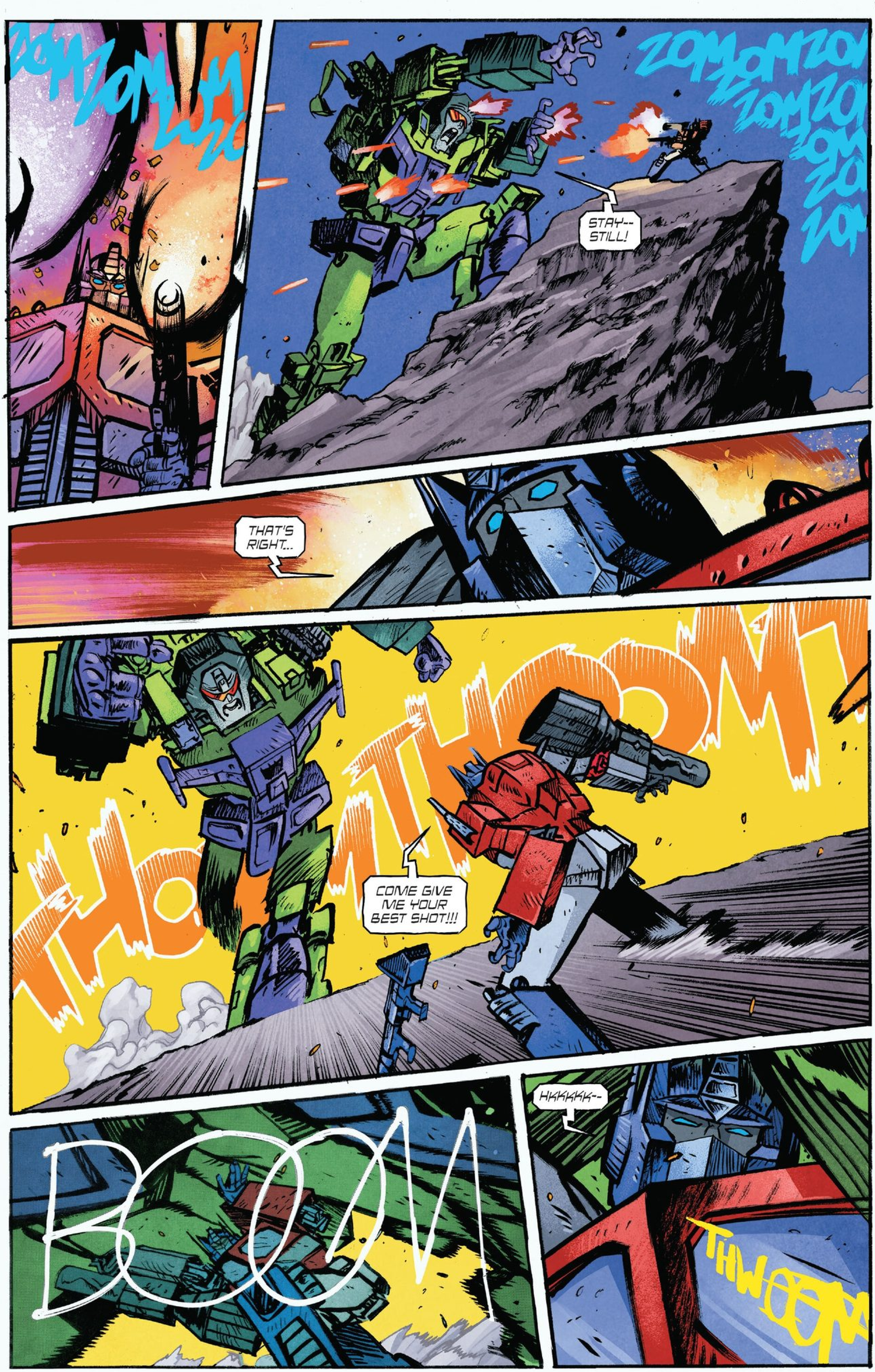

STARTING WITH THIS GREEN DEMON.
ZAPP
YAHHHHH!
RIPPPPPPP
KRAK
SPUK
MY-- HAND!!!
CHK

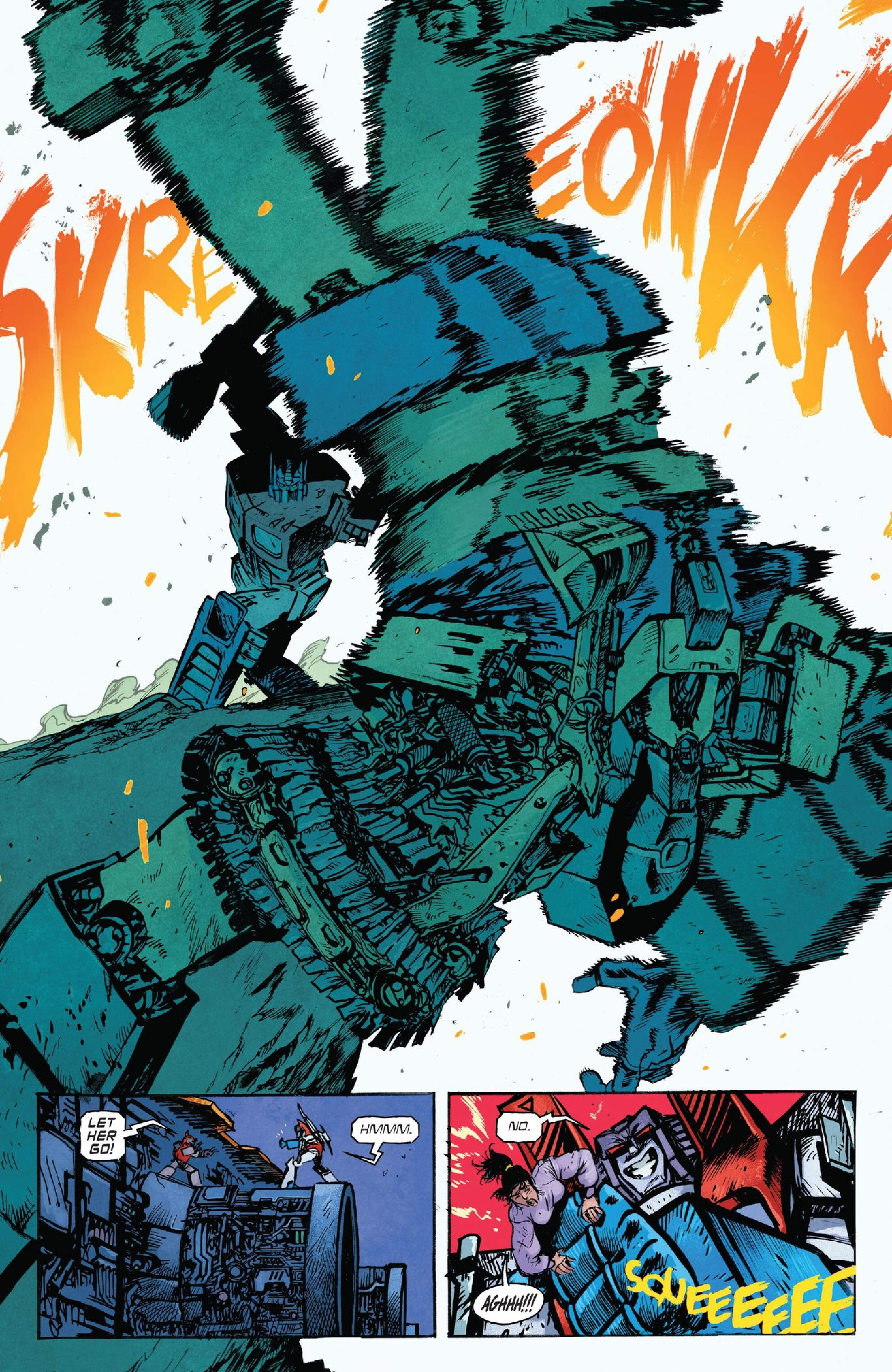

AW YEAH
YOU
NOW
BOOM

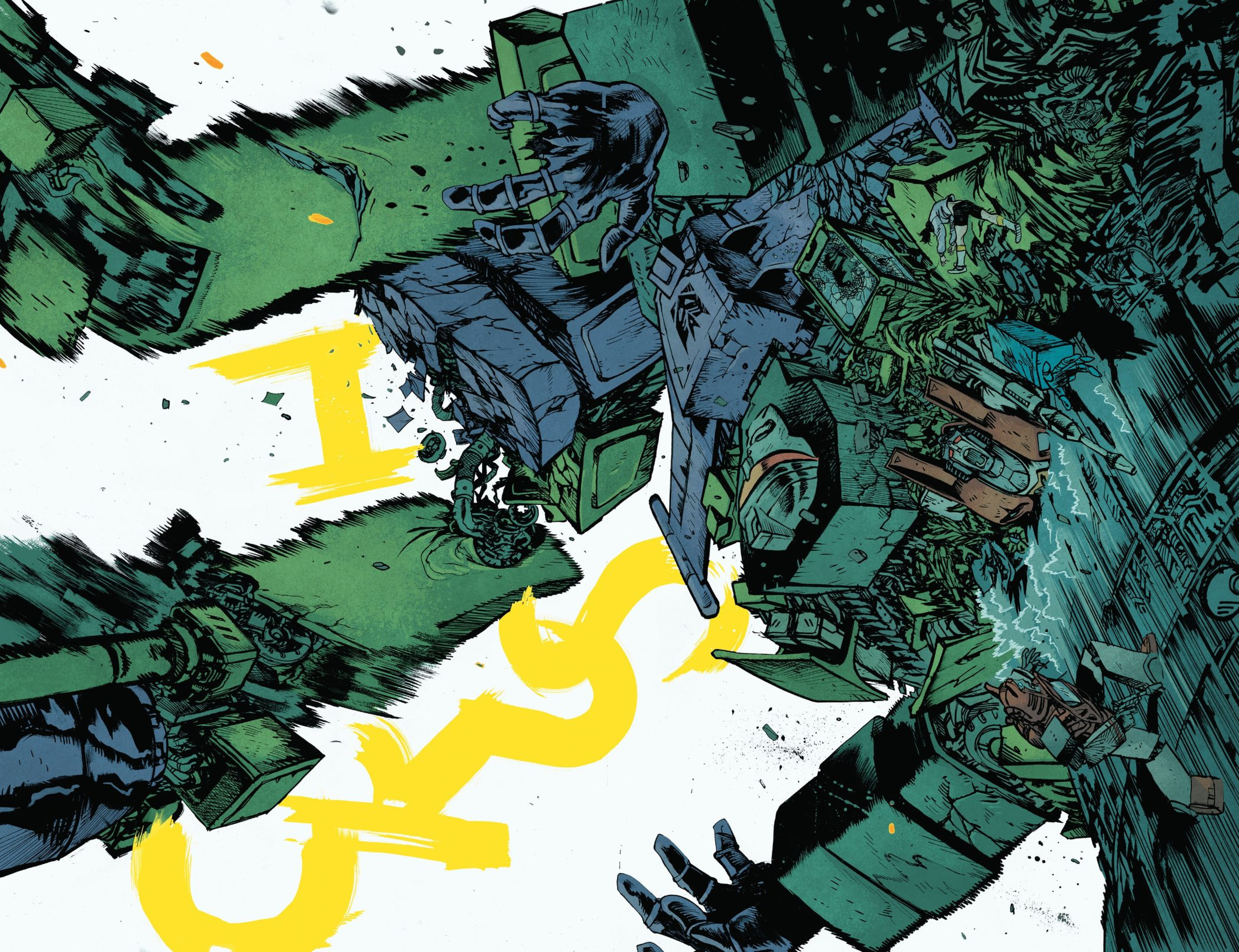

I REMEMBER YOUR KIND! I REMEMBER YOUR CLAN! IT WAS A **PLEASURE** AS I RIPPED EACH OPTIC NERVE FROM THEIR WEEPING FACES!
NOW, CARLY!
WHA--?
GEEAHH!
CHK
I REMEMBER THAT DAY LIKE IT HAPPENED MINUTES AGO.
I'VE ALWAYS WONDERED WHAT THIS MOMENT WOULD FEEL LIKE.
PLEASE--!
CLIFF?
I-I--

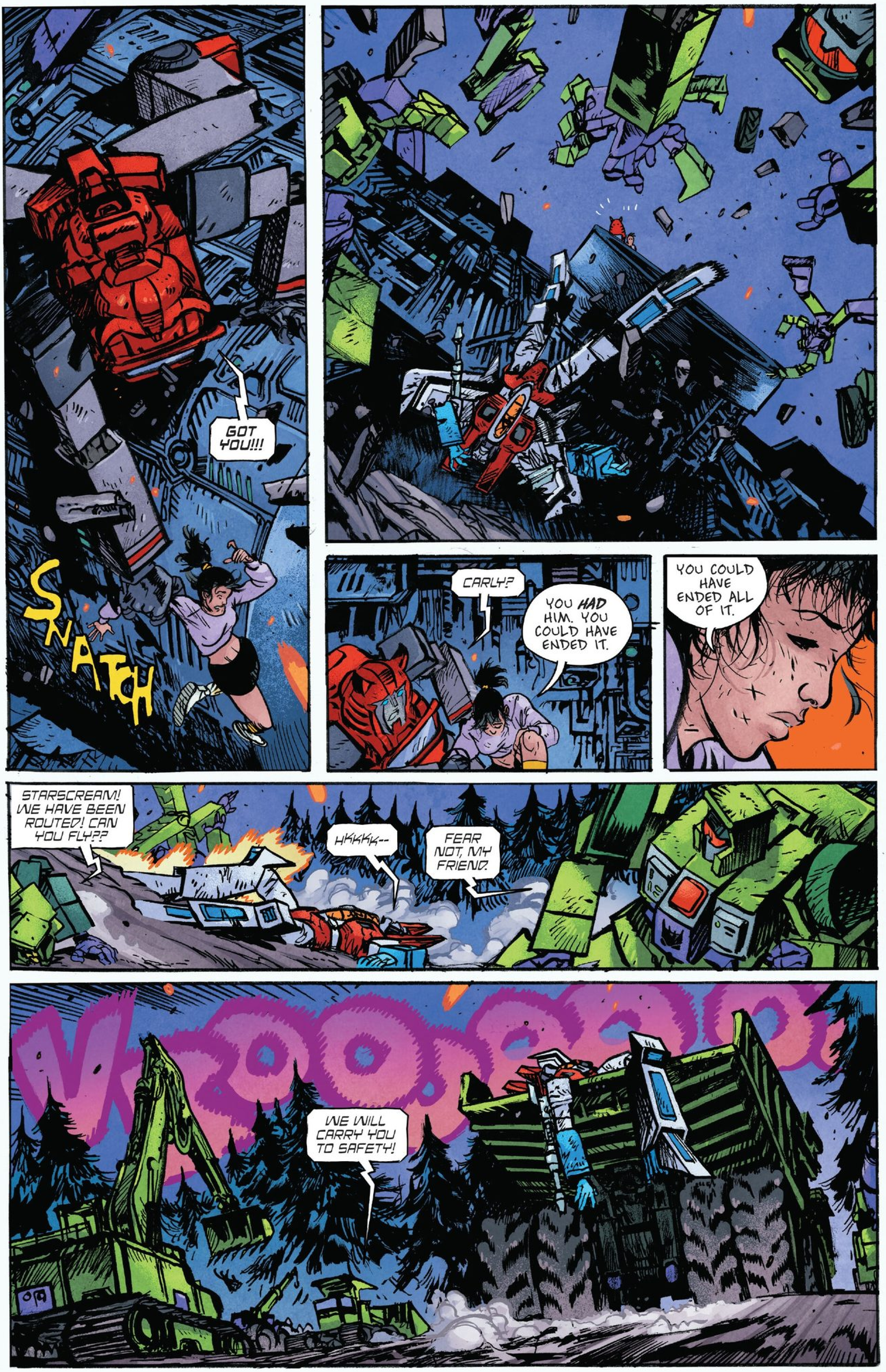

CAN'T DO IT.
...WHAT?
I--I THOUGHT THIS IS WHAT I WANTED, BUT...
HE **KILLED** YOUR ENTIRE--
I KNOW, CARLY!
MY **DAD!**
I JUST-- I'M TIRED OF IT.
ALL OF IT. I--
DON'T WORRY.
YOU'LL **BOTH** BE PUT TO REST SOON.
CARLY?

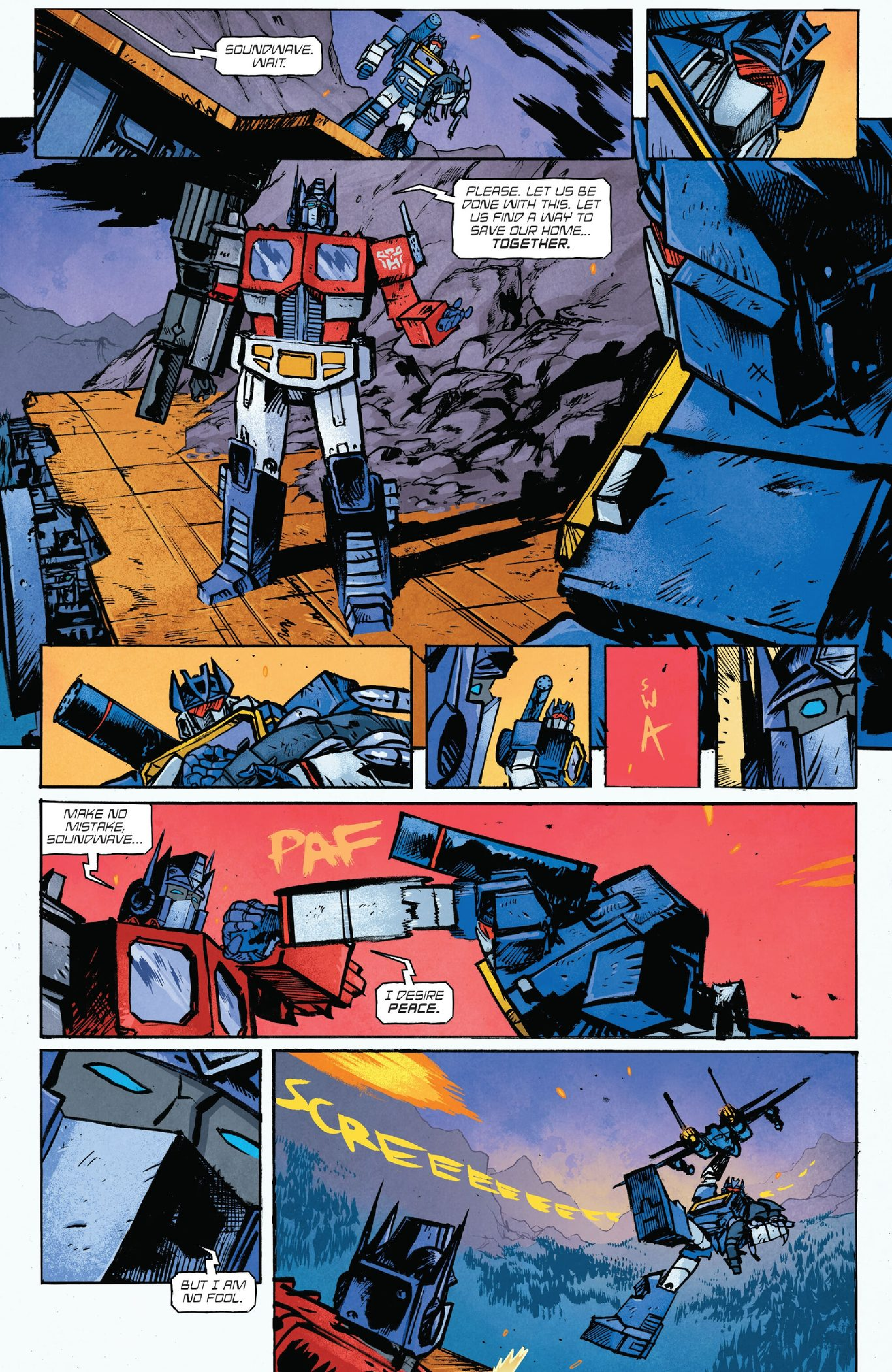

VRRAAAA
STUPID RED ANT!
POM
POM
PAM
COWARD!
VRO
KHFLOKAKHEE
SKRKKKKKKKKKKKKK
IS THAT ALL, DEVASTATOR?

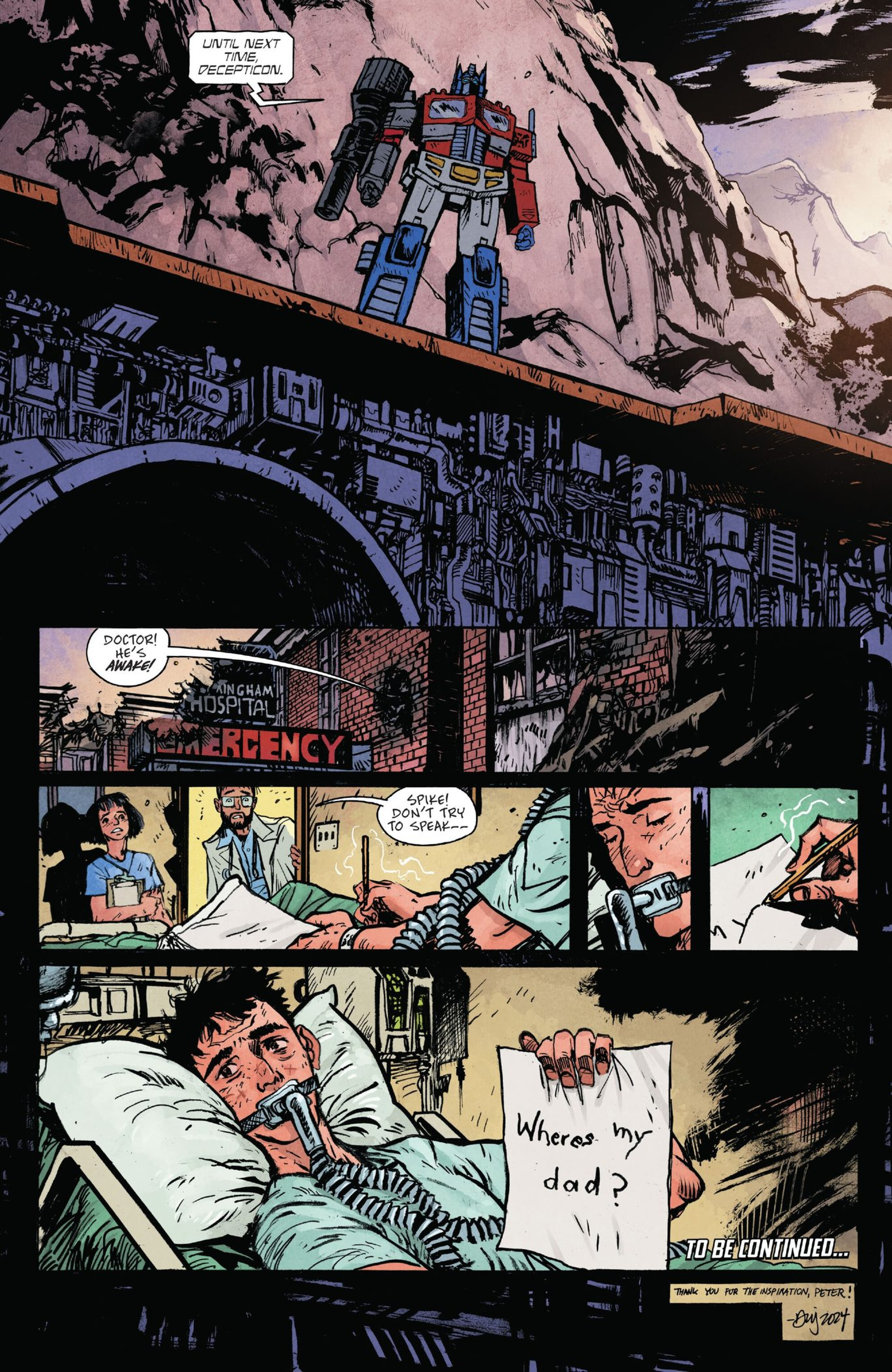

ZOMZOMZOM
ZZZ
ZOMZOMZOM
ZOMZOM
ZOM
ZOM
STAY--
STILL!
THAT'S
RIGHT...
THOOM THOOM
COME GIVE
ME YOUR
BEST SHOT!!!
BOOM
HKKKKK--
THWOOM


SKRE
EONKK
LET HER GO!
HMMM.
NO.
AGHHH!!!
SQUEEEEEEF


CKSH


GOT YOU!!!
SNATCH
CARLY?
YOU *HAD* HIM. YOU COULD HAVE ENDED IT.
YOU COULD HAVE ENDED ALL OF IT.
STARSCREAM! WE HAVE BEEN ROUTED! CAN YOU FLY??
HKKKK--
FEAR NOT, MY FRIEND.
VROOOOOOOO
WE WILL CARRY YOU TO SAFETY!


SOUNDWAVE. WAIT.
PLEASE. LET US BE DONE WITH THIS. LET US FIND A WAY TO SAVE OUR HOME... **TOGETHER.**
SWA
MAKE NO MISTAKE, SOUNDWAVE...
PAF
I DESIRE **PEACE.**
BUT I AM NO FOOL.
SCREEEEEEEEEE


UNTIL NEXT TIME, DECEPTICON.
DOCTOR! HE'S **AWAKE**!
INGHAM HOSPITAL
ERGENCY
SPIKE! DON'T TRY TO SPEAK--
my
Wheres my dad?
TO BE CONTINUED...
THANK YOU FOR THE INSPIRATION, PETER!
-Dwj 2024

SEND LETTERS TO TRANSFORMERS@SKYBOUND.COM

What a finish to our first incredible arc! The Decepticons are in disarray and the Autobots have reclaimed the Ark… but not without horrific losses. Heroes don't claim victory without heartbreak in the Energon Universe. This is editor Sean welcoming you, thanking you… and also slightly embarrassed we haven't found a letters page name yet? We'll fix that ASAP. Dan is taking a welcome siesta and will be back next month to unpack the mailbag.

* * *

Hi there team!! Very long letter incoming (sorry)!!

This is my first time ever following a comic line as it releases in real-time and I think I finally understand the feeling. #4 has left me with a whole mix of emotions for my favourite characters - and I couldn't believe my eyes at some of the stuff that happened! So much so that I just had to write this out. Optimus having to make such difficult choices so early on in the narrative is such a gut-punch and I didn't think it could get any worse for the poor guy. His relationship with Spike and Sparkplug is so interesting and I love seeing what facets of himself are bought out by the human characters. Gripping stuff. I also really really love Cliffjumper and Carly's developing camradere, it's so fun seeing them work together!

I have no words to describe how I feel about this take on the Decepticons, except maybe for incredible. They're just as desperate as our heroes - and all the worse for it. I cannot wait to see where this goes. (rest in pieces skywarp...)

You won't have to wait long. Next issue has some of my favorite Decepticon moments yet.

But most of all I couldn't believe it when my favourite Autobot showed up to turn the tides of that final battle!!! I thought that sneak-peak of Jazz back in volume #1 was a tease for something a long way down the line, it's almost embarrassing to admit but I gasped when I turned the page and saw his alt-mode in all its sleek and shiny glory. It was so cool seeing Jazz in action and fighting alongside the others! I didn't expect him to appear this early and I'm so happy I was surprised by it, even if it appears he won't appear again for a little while.

All in all this was such a great and exciting issue!!! As usual the art is so poppy and amazing and I love the expressiveness of the character artwork. It's so refreshing to see mecha characters drawn in such a way. I'm so here for it!! Can't wait for the next issue :)

Have a great day!
Cass

* * *

I can't get enough Soundwave, please don't stop now. First time reading a Transformers comic and it was definitely the art that pulled me in at first but now I'm sold. The story is solid and the fighting scenes are epic. Great comic overall but it definitely needs more Soundwave. Oh and what a tease you guys are by leaving us with Mighty Megatron at the end there. I can't wait for Starscream to get his. If I have to ask you guys for one thing, one thing, it will be for little bit more Soundwave. Thanks.

David

You won't have to wait long either, David. It's beautiful how you and Cass's interests align.

* * *

Hey there Skybound team! Hope everyone is doing great, you guys all rock at bringing this story to us every month! My genuine hope for this series is that we flashback to more points of the war on Cybertron, it's always been my favorite, and that some characters may return.

Eric—YOU WON'T HAVE TO WAIT LONGER EITHER, ALSO.

…But what if I told you the war is still very much going on?

Is there any rhyme or reason why certain characters have been offlined so soon, like do you guys have a vendetta against those ones in particular?

Eric

Aside from Dan's feelings toward Reflector, I think we're vendetta free, and choose to spotlight those we love and love to hate. And maybe there's more interesting stories to be told about those that have fallen along the way, too…

* * *

Well, Transformers #4 was a heck of an issue. Jazz's appearance was unexpected, yet most welcome in this lopsided fight for Farmingham. I've been around for all the continuities: Marvel, Dreamwave, IDW, and now yours, and none have given me the excitement each month that your little comic does. Great work team, I can't wait to see where the book goes, and you can bet I'll be buying it.

Jazz's appearance has also given me hope for Prowl popping up sooner rather than later, hopefully?

Please keep up the great work,

Craig Prenzler

CRAIG—

Unfortunately… you WILL have to wait.

* * *

Hello from Sydney, Australia!

I just wanted to say that the Energon universe rules! I will be getting them ALL!

'Transformers' in particular is the best comic I've read in ages! Well done DWJ!

Thank you so much and my suggestion for the column name is LETTERTRON haha. That or THE MATRIX OF LETTERSHIP.

-Dave Longo

That's the winner, right? MATRIX OF LETTERSHIP. I think I'm calling the contest right here. 10/10 letters column name, Dave.

* * *

This goes to the awesome Transformers team. I just bought Issue Four, and I gotta say, this is some of the best Transformers stuff out there. Starscream shooting a hospital with a silly grin, Jazz's surprise appearance (and sadly, disappearance), AND MEGATRONS BODY FROZEN IN THE ARCTIC!!! I'm so hyped for whatever's coming next.

Starscream shooting up a hospital is one of the most cold-blooded things I've published, and that includes every horrible thing that's happened in THE WALKING DEAD and INVINCIBLE.

As for Megatron… if you haven't checked out COBRA COMMANDER #1, please do that immediately. Then be sure to pick up the ENERGON UNIVERSE FREE COMIC BOOK DAY SPECIAL for an action-packed story written by Dan and drawn by INVINCIBLE's own Ryan Ottley. It is an absolutely thrilling comic, and you also get two other new stories: a VOID RIVALS short by Robert Kirkman & Lorenzo De Felici and a G.I. JOE short by Joshua Williamson and Jason Howard. Important stuff for the future of the EU in all three stories!

I think my only question would be if you're considering bringing non-G1 characters into the fray later on. I'm loving the current cast, but it'd be nice to see some new appearances from guys like Lugnut or Bulkhead.

Anyways, thanks for the awesome read.
May from California

We will, eventually. TONS of great characters to choose from. But first I need to take a couple sick days and just binge *Transformers Animated*.

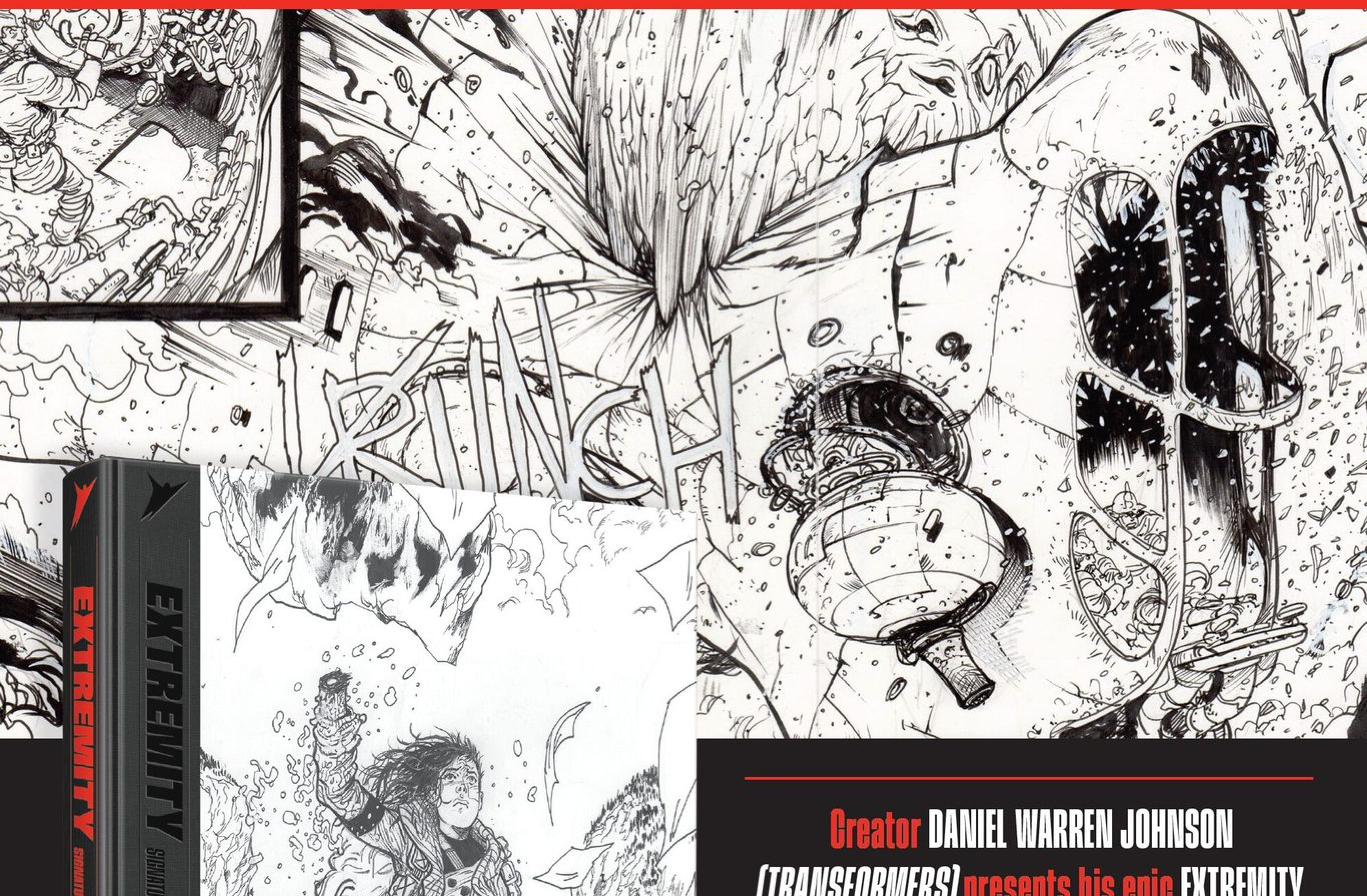
* * *

Next month, we go to Cybertron and bring along artist Jorge Corona (*Middlewest*, *The Me You Love in the Dark*) along for the ride!

ALSO, if you love Dan's art as much as we do, please check out the recently launched Kickstarter campaign for EXTREMITY SIGNATURE EDITION. Check out the ad over there and follow the QR code for more details. It's a massive book filled with incredible art that I couldn't be more excited to produce and have you all hold in your hands.

-Sean

DANIEL WARREN JOHNSON'S ORIGINAL MASTERPIECE COMES TO KICKSTARTER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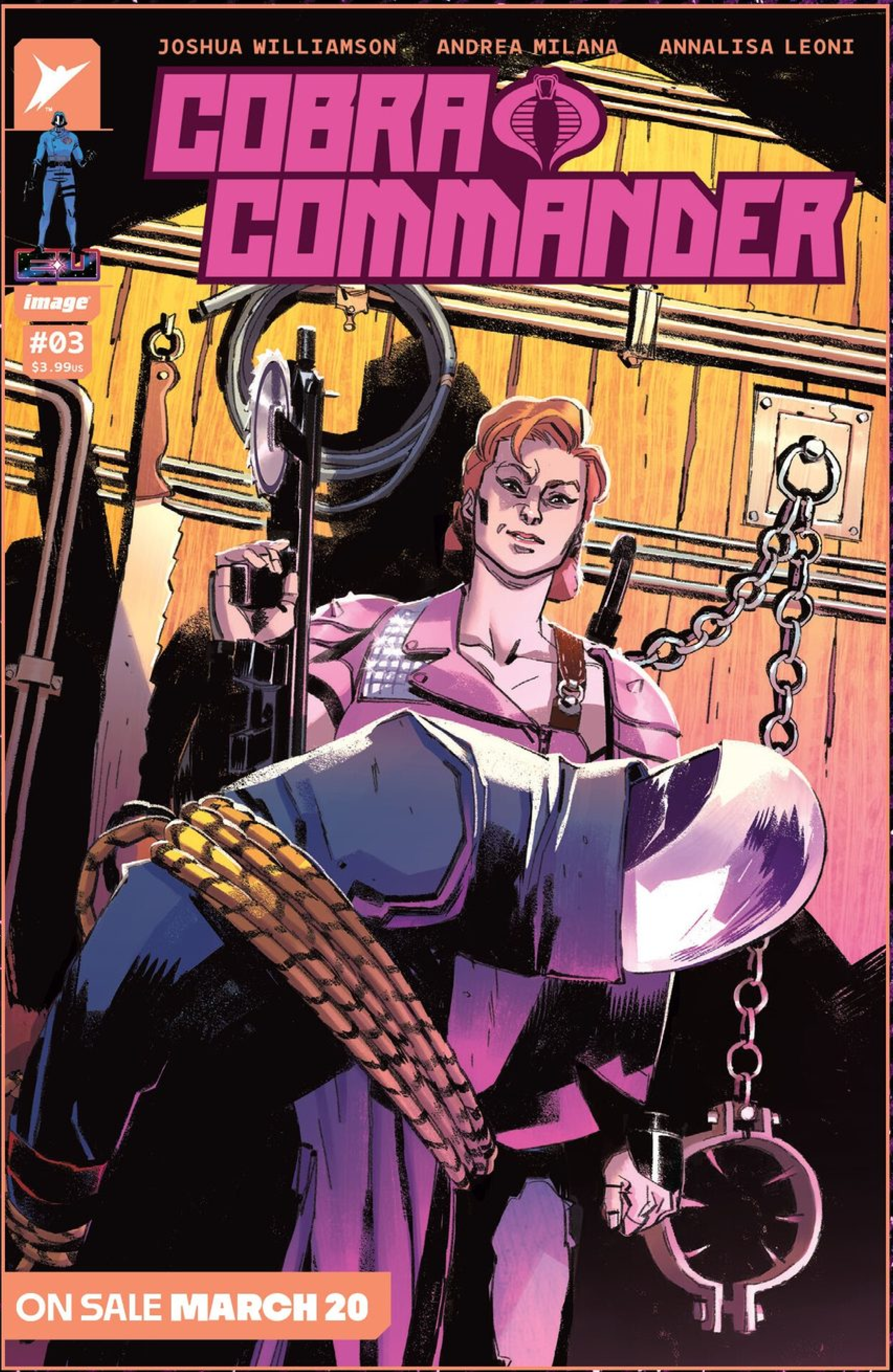
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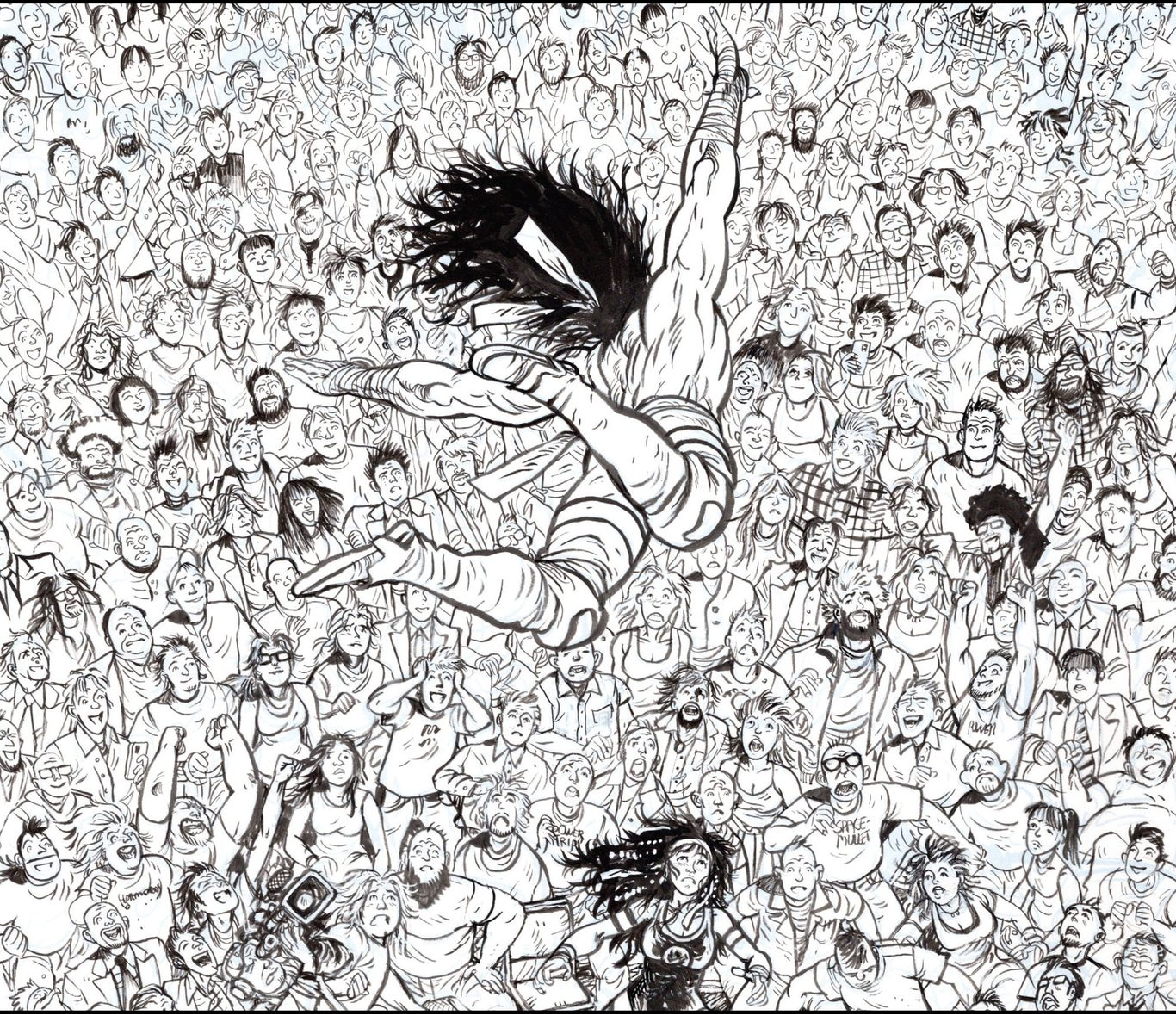

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